

**Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Natural Resource Commission  
Regular Meeting  
January 13, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner, William McNamara;

Roll Call Commission: Commissioner, William McNamara; Treasurer, Frederick Holdorph; Vice-Chairman, Renee Dillard; Associate Commissioner, John Keshick III;

Absent: 1 Vacant Position

NRD Staff: Director, Doug Craven; Great Lakes Fisheries Biologist, Kevin Donner.

Absent: Chief Conservation Officer, Kevin Willis; Inland Wildlife Biologist, Archie Kiogima Jr.; Inland Fisheries Biologist, Maxwell Field; Environmental Services Coordinator, Daugherty Johnson III; Inland Fisheries Biologist, Bill Parsons; Administrative Assistant, Debra Smithkey-Browne

Guest: None

Open Ceremony – Renee Dillard

Public Comment Opened at 6:04 p.m.

Public Comment Closed at 6:05 p.m.

NRC reviewed the Agenda

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the agenda as amended; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

NRC reviewed the minutes of December 9, 2015.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the minutes of December 9, 2015 are presented; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Conservation Law Enforcement Report – Kevin Willis, Chief Conservation Officer**

- Timothy Mallory, Conservation Officer will be attending Training in Artesia, New Mexico February through June.
- Preliminary numbers are up from previous years, more hours, increased Great Lakes Patrols, 1 week spent on Beaver Island with an average of 85 miles of patrolling each day.

- New equipment in the last 8 months included 2 ATV Aces and 3 snowmobiles.
- Ice conditions are not good only 1 ½ to 4 inches of ice on some lakes.
- Matthew Robertson and Timothy Mallory attended training on January 13<sup>th</sup> regarding Field Safety to reduce officer incidents and injury.
- New uniforms, vests (easy on and off) and shirts were purchased.
- LTBB Tribal Commercial Fisherman Small Grant. Concerns are no consequences for fishermen to sell the equipment that was purchased through the grant in less than a years' time period of purchase and award of the Grant.
- No Parking signs at the LTBB 9 Mile Point property to keep unauthorized vehicles from parking in the area where commercial boats turn to load or unload boats.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the Conservation Law Enforcement written and verbal report as presented by Kevin Willis, Chief Conservation Officer; supported by Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

## **Environmental Services Report – Caroline Keson, Water Quality Specialist**

### **General Assistance Program**

- LTBB Fish Consumption Project Kick off meeting. We were awarded \$20,000 to determine the amount of fish our Citizens eat to develop more accurate advisories and increase our knowledge on mercury contamination levels. This will also assist us in setting proper water quality standards.
- Non-Point Source management planning grant and Stormwater, Asset Mgt. and Wastewater (SAW) grants totaling \$74,000 have been awarded to us to develop a stormwater management program. This will result in the development of an EPA Section 319 program application. This will allow us to target non-point source pollution projects throughout the reservation.

### **Water Quality Program**

- The 2012 and 2013 macroinvertebrate analysis is completed and 2014 is underway. The goal is to have the 2015 analysis completed before the 2016 sampling season begins in the spring. Lauren's done a great job on this goal.
- Caroline and Lauren both participated in the Fish Consumption and SAW project planning and implementation.

### **Great Lakes Policy**

- The program is now fully staffed! We hired Aubrey Maccoux-LaDuc as our new Great Lakes Policy Specialist. Please welcome her to the team.

- I attended the Great Lakes Executive Council in Toronto. The event was well attended with at least 4 other Tribal governments in attendance.
- The Great Lakes Policy Intern has completed a short video on Lake Sturgeon. A copy is available in the Environmental office or get with Spencer.

### **Environmental Response**

- Working on Tribal Quarterly, EPA Semi-annual, PAL report (EPA) and Public Record/Inventory
- Retrieved remaining historical data for 2015 site visits and finalizing reviews
- Accepting all new land purchase information (Latest was Cross Village properties)
- Conducted research and provided technical knowledge on NEPA activities and actions for LTBB Museum
- Attended NRDA (natural resource damage assessment) and remain a trustee for pipeline oil spill recovery actions (with USFWS, NOAA, MDEQ and GTB/LRB)

### **Air Quality and Climate Adaptation**

- We finalized the Health Park energy audit. Our vendor Keen, submitted the final report and the final bill has been authorized for payment. Next step is determining what findings to implement.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the Environmental Services Verbal and Written Report as presented by Caroline Keson, Water Quality Specialist; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Great Lakes Fishery Report – Kevin Donner, Great Lakes Fishery Biologist**

### **Recent Events**

- Fish Consumption Survey Kick-off Meeting (1/7)

### **Research/Management**

- Data Processing and Analysis
  - GLFP is ageing lake trout ageing structures and entering data collected throughout the year
- Assessments
  - One late season assessment was conducted in Little Traverse Bay in mid-December. Ripe and likely spawning cisco were detected on spawning reefs.
- Contaminants
  - GLFP will collaborate with Environmental Services to administer a fish consumption survey designed to inform water quality

- standards for contaminants and inform formation of an LTBB specific consumption advisory.
- 150-200 fish fillets will be analyzed for mercury as part of the grant funded project.
- Lake Trout MM-123
  - GLFP staff have completed preliminary analyses of effort limits in MM-123 (restricted at 10,000ft per vessel per day as a stand-alone regulation). If implemented year long, effort would be reduced by 20-25% (relative to status quo, no bag limit). If implemented during June, July and August, (during highest catch rates of lake trout) annual effort would be reduced by 10-15% (relative to status quo, no bag limit).
- Cisco
  - GLFP staff will present a revised Cisco Assessment Protocol to the Lake Michigan Technical Committee Meeting at the upcoming winter meeting.

### **Hatchery**

- Cisco eggs have "eyed up" in phenomenal numbers. Cisco hatch is expected in the coming days.
- Lake Trout eggs have hatched and are being monitored for signs of Early Mortality Syndrome

### **Other**

- Grants
  - GLFP will submit the following proposals:
    - EVALUATING PARASITE-HOST INTERACTIONS OF PARASITIC-PHASE SEA LAMPREY WITH HATCHERY-REARED LAKE WHITEFISH AND CISCO – Great Lakes Fish Commission - \$37,024
    - Cisco Restoration Project Phase 3 – BIA-Great Lakes Restoration Initiative - \$164,473
    - Investigating Otolith Laser Ablation as a Tool to Assign Origin and Determine Movement Patterns of Cisco in Lake Michigan – EPA-GLRI - \$39,538
    - BIA Hatchery Maintenance - \$88,921

### **Upcoming Events**

- NRD Strategic Plan Meeting (1/19)
- Stewardship Conference (1/15 – 1/16)
  - Presentations:
    - Jason Smith: Cisco Assessment in Northeastern Lake Michigan
- Fish Health Training (1/24 – 1/29)
- Midwest fish and Wildlife Conference (1/24 – 1/27)
  - Presentations:
    - Bill Oeming: Precision of Estimating Ages of Yellow Perch Using Dorsal and Anal Spines
    - Jason Smith: Cisco Assessment in Northeastern Lake Michigan

- Kevin Donner: A Beach Seine-Based Coregonid Recruitment Survey: "Multi-Agency Collaboration In The Bag!"
- Kevin Donner: Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Nme (Lake Sturgeon) In The Classroom: Adapting Fisheries Management Educational Outreach To The High School Level In The Context of Standards-Based Learning Goals
- Lake Michigan Technical Committee Meeting (1/27 – 1/28)
- CORA (1/28)

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; to approve the Great Lakes Fishery Biologist Written and Verbal Report as submitted by Kevin Donner, Great Lakes Fishery Biologist; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant  
Motion Carried**

## **Inland Wildlife Biologist Report – Maxwell Field, Inland Wildlife Biologist**

### **Meetings/Conference Calls**

CORA Meeting – Holiday Inn Express Gaylord, MI

- December 10, 2015 Black bear harvest sharing discussion

Climate Adaptation meeting @ ITC SSM, MI

- December 11, 2015

O'Neal Lake Dam Meeting – Bliss Township Hall

- December 14, 2015
- Engineers presented a report & recommended replacing the dam at Lake O'Neal to MDNR (LTBB NRD has committed \$45,000 of C of F funds for dam replacement)

Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) Coastal Zone Workshop

- Hosted by LTBB NRD @ LTBB commons area December 16, 2015

Appropriations & Finance Committee (AFC meeting)

- December 21, 2015
- \$10,600 requested for scotch pine removal

### **Program Activities**

LTBB Elk Hunting Season

- December 5-13, 2015
- Gut pile check 12/6 cow elk @ Canada Creek Ranch – Archie Kiogima
- Gut pile check 12/9 5x5 bull elk @ Canada Creek Ranch—Dave LaCroix
- Elk heads need to be turned into disease lab for TB & CWD testing

Carcass Camera Set-up/Maintenance

- January 13, 2016 Jureks
- December 18 & January 4, 2016

Wolf/Cougar sighting field checks

- January 5, 2016 cougar sighting @ Van & Rugged roads (1/6/16 no tracks found)
- January 6, 2016 wolf sighting @ Sportmans Drive (checked on 1/6/16 found old tracks??)

### **Inland Consent Decree Activities**

Submitted a memo from the Inland Fisheries Committee for the December 15, 2015 deadline to update Table 1

- detailing changes to the 1836 ceded territory walleye lakes, Appendix B1, Table 1 of the 2007 Consent Decree
- 2016 allocation for sturgeon harvest in Black Lake (14 total=7 mdnr+ 7 five tribes)

2015 Inland Fisheries Harvest Report

- Due: January 31, 2016

2016 Inland Fisheries Work Plan

- Due: March 1, 2016

2016 Wildlife Work Plan

- Due: April 1, 2016

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the Inland Wildlife Biologist Written and Verbal Report as submitted by and presented by Archie Kiogima, Inland Wildlife Biologist; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

### **Commissioner's Report – as presented by Commissioners**

- Commissioner Dillard stated concern regarding the CORA meetings being held in Gaylord, MI and not on tribal properties.
- Stewardship Network Conference will be held January 15 – 16, 2016 in East Lansing, MI at the Kellogg Center – Renee Dillard will be attending and presenting.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to approve the Commissioners Verbal Report as presented by the commissioners; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

### **Natural Resource Director's Report – Douglas W. Craven, Director**

- MDNR is changing regulations to include using suppressers on firearms to reduce the sound, reduce some re-coil – recommendation of the Conservation Officers to approve this regulation once the consent decree is referenced.
- 2016 Treaty Rights Enhancement Budget has some carry-over funds. 2016 Commission budget is approved at \$31,000.
- Aqua Culture Legislation Bill is on the docket – 2-3 bills introduced to allow Aqua Culture and 1 introduced to not allow Aqua Culture in the Great Lakes.

- MI Coastal Grant to use to purchase land with the tribe to use matching funds for the purchase – interested in Wycamp Creek land.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; to approve the Natural Resource Director's Verbal Report as presented by Douglas W. Craven, Natural Resource Director; John Keshick III, Associate Commissioner; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

Break at 7:50

Meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; to approve commission attendance for the CORA Meeting on January 28, 2016 and receive mileage, per diem, and stipend; Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; to approve the purchase of cell phones for Commissioner's Renee Dillard and John Keshick III; Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion made by Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; to suspend the LTBB Commercial Fisherman Small Grant program until further review and revisions by the commission; Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion made by Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; to approve NRC Work Session to be held on January 26, 2016 at 5 p.m. at the NRD conference room and commission to receive mileage, and stipend; Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion made by Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman; to approve commission attendance for the Midwest Environmental Conference to be held January 24 – 26, 2016 in Grand Rapids, MI; Frederick Holdorff, Treasurer; supports.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

Public Comment opened at 8:55 p.m.

Public Comment closed at 8:56 p.m.

**Motion made by Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer; to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.; supported by John Keshick III, Associate Commissioner.**

**4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant**

**Motion Carried**

Next scheduled meeting will be held on January 27, 2016

Approved:

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Secretary

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Date